

BlueDevil II

88th Regional Support Command

May 2001 Vol. VI, No. 1

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page 10*



CG's Corner

Maj. Gen. John M. O'Connell



This issue of the *Blue Devil II* features two important, related events: the ten-year anniversary of Desert Shield/Desert Storm (DS/DS) and 88th Regional Support Command units deploying to support ongoing contingency operations.

For the past several months, a commemorative task force has undertaken an aggressive campaign to commemorate the Army Reserve's participation in the Gulf War. Their goal is to draw attention to the sacrifices, commitment and support our Army Reserve forces provided in what has come to be called a *watershed* event for the Army Reserve. It was Desert Storm/Desert Shield that proved the total force concept could work. Those operations proved that the Army Reserve could be counted on to provide professional units and soldiers that meet, and even exceed, Army standards and get the job done.

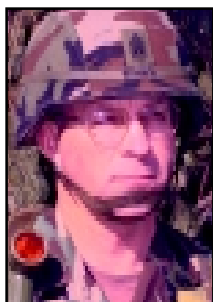
Since that event, the Army Reserve has become an integral and indispensable part of The Army. As Maj. Gen. Thomas J. Plewes recently stated to a Reserve Officer Association audience, the Army Reserve has become "the Army's essential provider of training and support operations." The Army Reserve is no longer just a force in reserve. We are fully engaged in the Army's mission requirements and recent deployments should

reinforce for all the important roles we play.

The 88th RSC recently deployed three units to support Operation Joint Guardian in Kosovo: the 307th Medical Group from Columbus, Ohio; a detachment of the 376th Finance Battalion from Wausau, Wis.; and two detachments of the 391st Military Police Company from Columbus, Ohio. In addition, the 318th Public Affairs Detachment from Forest Park, Ill., is currently deployed in support of Operation Joint Forge in Bosnia. All four units play an integral part in continuing the role that began in the Revolutionary War and that has been reinforced time and time again, as illustrated in Desert Storm/Shield: Citizen/soldiers and well-trained and ready to step forward when called upon.

Of particular significance is the 307th Med. Group's role in their deployment. For the first time, an Army Reserve unit will have command and control of active duty medical operations, as the 307th will be the C2 element of Task Force Med Falcon.

This is a clear statement of confidence in the Army Reserve's ability to do the job. *Blue Devils!*



Command Sgt. Maj. John Werner

Uncle Sam can be a tough relative at times. As soldiers, we've all experienced missions that have challenged us, mentally and physically. But Uncle Sam is also fair. He lets us know what is expected of us before sending us on a mission. In short, he gives us standards to follow.

Meet the standards and the mission will be accomplished. That's all Uncle Sam wants. Pretty simple, right? Not exactly, but that's where NCOs come in. The standards of the U.S. Army are not impossible to meet, but they can be difficult if NCOs don't follow the creed, *Be, know, and do*.

NCOs at all levels need to be an example to others. Our soldiers look

to us for guidance in meeting standards. If NCOs can't pass an APFT, or have shined boots, or fail weapons qualification, how can they expect their soldiers to succeed? How can you tell a soldier that his uniform needs to be pressed when your own looks like a Humvee drove over it? But it's not just about covering yourself. It has been proven over and over again that leaders who meet the standards inspire subordinates to do the same.

Obviously, before NCOs can meet standards they have to know what the standards are. Sometimes it's easy, like knowing how many push-ups you need to pass the APFT. Sometimes it's harder, like knowing how to properly do a push-up. It is further complicated when standards change from time to time; even some dependable NCOs won't know the most current standard.

From the Top

What to do? Here's a hint: Army Regulations. All it takes is the proper, most recently updated regulation to find out what the standards are. Don't assume, or try to remember what your drill instructor said ten years ago. Be proactive and look it up in the regs; they're the only authority on standards. Read and learn.

Once you have the knowledge, the rest is easy: Just do it! Meet those standards, set the example, and teach your soldiers the right way, Uncle Sam's way. Do that and the mission will succeed. But remember -- even if you as a soldier meet the standards, you as an NCO are still obligated to ensure your soldiers meet the standards. Do that and you will also meet the standards of leadership. Be, know, do -- it's all Uncle Sam asks of you.

Take the point!



BlueDevil II

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May 2001

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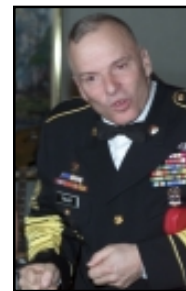
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On the cover

Pvt. Steven Gutierrez, a Blue Devil Basic Challenge graduate, fires at targets downrange while doing a fire and movement drill during basic training at Fort Jackson, S.C. A look at the Blue Devil Basic Challenge begins on page 16.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Bill Geddes, 88th RSC PAO



On the back

Burning Kuwaiti oil fields greeted U.S. soldiers after they drove off Iraqi forces. This year marks the 10-year anniversary of Operations Desert Storm/ Shield. A six-page retrospective begins on page 10.

photo by Lt. Col. Vic Bandini (ret.)



From the editor

The *Blue Devil II* magazine staff has added what is expected to be a recurring letters section.

The section was added for two reasons. First, *Blue Devil II* is for the soldiers and DA civilians of the 88th Regional Support Command. We invite readers' views.

Second, *Blue Devil II* is the command publication of the 88th RSC, the command's mouthpiece and a way for the command to communicate with the soldiers and civilians of the 88th RSC. Effective communication is normally a two-way street. The *Letters* section will allow for that.

Please stay fewer than 150 words and include your name, rank and address. We may condense your views because of space. We can't publish or answer every one, but we'll use representative views. Write to: Letters, *Blue Devil II*, 506 Roeder Circle, Fort Snelling, MN 55111-4009, or email: **88th.PAO**
Office@usarc-emh2.army.mil

Overdue Award

The article in Vol. V, No. 3, *Overdue Award*, was excellent!

You did, however, find my very last nerve and successfully manage to stomp squarely upon it.

It is NOT YOUR FAULT, but I'm sure I'm not alone when I say, whoever managed to lose, disallow, (or God forbid, purposefully destroy) the FIRST recommendation for the MSG's medal should be court-martialed.

Several years ago (1975), when I was in the (Active) Regular Army at Fort Jackson, I was mentored by a highly decorated CW3 named Thomasen. When some pinheaded

"PowerPoint Ranger" equivalent managed to mess over a soldier via a purposeful paperwork snafu, he made the comment that "The peacetime Army ain't worth a #&*@." If a war were to start, people would start doing important things instead of sitting around thinking up selfish power grabs, sanctimonious idealistic goals, and meaningless make-work details to keep everyone busy." (He really had a way with words.)

I was shocked that he would prefer to serve in a wartime army, and we had an interesting conversation, but his point about the "admin dweeb" who either by honest ignorance, or for a self-serving reason messed over the soldier shouldn't be repeated (using his language of colorful metaphors) in polite company.

So here we are today... someone of less than sufficient character, competence, or honor, to be in the same army as MSG Albiero has repeated the same type of action against a true selfless hero. To whoever you are, I wish for you some other jerk to make the rest of your life utterly miserable.

To Congressman Hastert, I salute you and I hope for you all the best this world and country has to offer. Thank you from all of us soldiers for being an honorable man who we can look up to and serve.

SFC Philip Stone
338th Army Band

Black Beret

As a combat veteran with over 16 years in the U.S. Army, I'm frankly quite put off by the criticism being directed at the plan to have everyone in the Army wear the black beret, heretofore reserved for the so-called "elite" Army Rangers. Apparently some ex-Rangers have marched on Washington, D.C. to protest the move, and active-duty Rangers have also voiced their disapproval. Their argu-

ment seems to be that because they're "elite," they should be the only one's allowed to wear the beret. I have a problem with this.

Granted, Rangers probably do things that other soldiers don't do, such as 100 push-ups on one hand, killing an enemy soldier with a Q-tip, or eating snakes while living in a swamp for a month. Their job IS important and I'm glad they're serving. However, there are many jobs in the Army that are important. Cooks, fuel handlers, and engineers are just some of the military professions that are equal to, if not more essential than, the Rangers. Yet, when Rangers openly disapprove of an order from higher headquarters it looks as if they think all other jobs in the military are second-class. How's that for a morale builder?

Obviously, the U.S. Rangers believe in the myth of "the clothes make the man." Why else would they be complaining about this? Apparently they're nothing without the beret. In fact, clothes do not make the soldier — one's attitude does. If an Ranger needs a piece of black cloth to make him feel special, then he doesn't belong in the military.

Lastly, if the Rangers truly believe they are indeed "elite," I would think they would be the first to acknowledge the importance of following orders. Soldiers who are elite are the ones who follow orders and get the job done. I'm sure there are some Rangers who are not being distracted by this fashion controversy and who are only concerned about one thing: defending their country. I applaud them and all others who feel the same way. To the soldiers complaining about this order, I remind them that it IS an order. In the words of one of my drill sergeants, they need to suck it up and drive on.

Staff Sgt. Dave Boe
364th MPAD

Army to don black berets

by Gen. Eric K. Shinseki, Army chief of Staff
from the Army home page

The Army must change to maintain its relevance for the evolving strategic environment. To provide our Nation strategic options for mastering the complexity of that environment, The Army committed, in its Vision a year ago, that "as technology allows, we will

Proper wear of the beret

Don the beret with:

The headband one inch above the eyebrows.

The headband straight across the forehead.

The flash centered over the left eye.

Pull the excess material over the right ear.

begin to erase the distinctions between heavy and light forces." In the United States Army, the beret has become a symbol of excellence of our specialty units. Soldiers of the Special Forces, our airborne units, and the Ranger Regiment have long demonstrated such excellence through their legendary accomplishments and unmatched capabilities. Their deployability, versatility, and agility are due, in part, to their organizational structure and equipment. But more significant is their adaptiveness, which keeps them ready to take on any mission, anytime, anyplace.

Today, the distinctive emblem of these units is the wear of the beret. But, over the past 50 years, berets have been worn by a variety of Army formations—airborne, armor, cavalry, infantry, ranger, special forces, and others. The black beret was being worn by formations Army-wide, when it was approved by the Army for wear by the

Recommendations for shaping

Ensure the beret is the proper size.

Properly don the beret for fit. Tie the ribbons into a nonslip knot (cut off the ends).

Dampen the beret (not soak).

Properly don the dampened beret to shape it for your head.

Wear the beret until it dries to shape. (approximately 1-2 hours)

Ranger Regiment in 1975. Today, it remains one of our symbols of excellence in The Army as reflected by its wear in the Ranger Regiment. We are transforming today's most powerful Army in the world from a Cold

War Legacy Force to an Objective Force with early entry capabilities that can operate jointly, without access to fixed forward bases, and still have the power to slug it out and win campaigns decisively (Intent, June 1999). This Transformation will correct the condition in today's Legacy Force where our heavy forces are too heavy, and our light forces lack staying power. To master this strategic transition and to establish the parameters for decisiveness in the 21st century, The Army must become adaptive to be strategically responsive and dominant across the entire spectrum of military operations. To symbolize The Army's commitment to transforming itself into the Objective Force, The Army will adopt the black beret for wear Army-wide. It is not about increasing recruiting; we achieved our recruiting target of 180,000 recruits last year—without a beret. It is not about retention; for the second year in a row, we exceeded our reenlistment goal by a wide margin—without a beret. It is not about morale; Soldiers are ready today to go into harm's way. It is about our excellence as Soldiers, our unity as a force, and

Other practices

Shave the beret with a razor to remove the fuzz

Soak the beret in warm water.

Pinch the material behind the stiffener to form dip.

Freezing a soaked beret and shaking out the ice is another method to dry the material.

our values as an institution. Effective 14 June 2001, the first Army birthday in the new millennium, the black beret will become standard wear in The Army—Active and Reserve Components. Sergeant Major of the Army Tilley will lead the effort to craft implementing guidelines, including indoctrination standards that all Soldiers will meet before they are authorized to wear the beret. Special operations and airborne units will retain their distinctive berets. Soldiers remain the centerpiece of our formation. We will march into the next millennium as The Army—♣ the strategic joint force of choice for the 21st century.

Editor's note: The berets will be distributed to 88th RSC soldiers prior to June 14 so they can be shaped. Command Sgt. Maj. John S. Werner, 88th RSC command sergeant major, will lead a ceremonial donning of the berets at 88th RSC headquarters, Fort Snelling for area AGR soldiers.

The ceremony will include a reading about the Army Birthday, the playing of the Army song, and a rite of passage. The rite of passage is still to be determined. TPU soldiers will don the berets the first drill after June 14 in a ceremony led by the senior NCO.

Talking to the SMA



Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Bill Geddes, 364th MPAD, Fort Snelling, Minn.

A soldier's soldier, an NCO's NCO, Sgt. Maj. Of the Army Jack A. Tilley visited the active, Guard and Reserve soldiers of Minnesota Jan. 27 to hear their issues, address their problems, demonstrate his trademark one-arm push-up challenge, and get everyone pumped up about being a soldier again.

As sergeant major of the Army, Tilley serves as the Army chief of staff's personal advisor on all enlisted-related matters, particularly in areas affecting soldier training and quality of life. The SMA devotes the majority of his time to traveling throughout the Army observing training, and talking to soldiers and their families. He sits on a wide variety of councils and boards that make decisions affecting enlisted soldiers and their families and is routinely invited to testify before Congress.

Tilley, sworn in as the 12th Sergeant Major of the Army on June 23, 2000,

is the kind of guy who can walk into a bar and immediately be everyone's best friend (something that's not likely to happen anytime soon, as Tilley doesn't drink, or smoke for that matter). He has the command voice that everyone can hear, even though he's not yelling, and the kind of engaging personality that allows a private just out of basic to feel like he can address him, even if he is the sergeant major of the Army, because you can tell he really does care about his soldiers.

A career soldier, Tilley has held every key leadership position during his 32-year career including: tank commander, section leader, drill sergeant, platoon sergeant, senior instructor, operations sergeant and first sergeant.

Invited by the Association of the United States Army (AUSA) General John W. Vessey Jr. Chapter, Tilley's whirlwind Minnesota tour began immediately after arrival at the Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport. Within five minutes of touchdown, Tilley was presenting a check to the airport's sol-

diers center. From there Tilley visited a recruiting station, lunched at a National Guard facility, held a town hall meeting for soldiers at the 88th Regional Support Command headquarters, and was the guest of honor at an AUSA awards banquet.

Even with that busy schedule, Tilley found time to talk to the *Blue Devil II*.

BDII Why did you join the Army?

SMA I don't really know. I had graduated from high school; I was 17 years old. It was during the summer, I was out swimming, and a bunch of guys came down and said, "What are you going to do with your life; What's going on?" I said, "Geesh, I don't know," and one guy said, "Let's join the Army." And that's why I joined the Army. There was not a thought process, I just thought it's be a neat thing to do, so I went down and joined.

BDII Did you ever think you'd reach this level when you joined?

SMA No. I don't think anyone ever plans on being the sergeant major of the Army. My plan in the Army was

to be a good spec four. I never really wanted to be anything other than what I am, and that's a soldier. To have the opportunity to be the sergeant major of the army, I'm certainly happy about that, but I never planned to be the sergeant major of the Army.

BDII How has the Army changed in the 30-plus years since you joined?

SMA There have been a lot of changes. I think technology is the biggest change. Of course our educational system has changed, but also I'll tell you I've changed. I understand a lot more, I understand the system a lot better, I understand exactly what we should or shouldn't be doing, so I think it's a series of things that have changed. For the most part we've changed for the better; better educated soldiers, better technology, better equipment, so that's the kind of change I think I'd focus on.

BDII What direction do you see the Army going in the future?

SMA A total transform, we're looking at a lot of different things. We're looking at what things we need to do

to improve the Army. I tell people all the time, it's not about the two brigades up at Fort Lewis, it's about changing the Army. We're looking at better equipment for the military, faster deployments into specific areas we deploy in. There's a lot of stuff we're working on, but that's part of the Army. If we don't change in the next war, then we'll get hurt because of that.

BDII There's a lot of talk now about the Army being in transition, about moving towards a lighter more mobile force. What effect do you see that having on Reserve forces?

SMA Probably none for quite a while. I also don't think it will have much effect on the NCO Corp, but I think that in the future it will change. We need to make sure that the Reserve and Guard understand about transformation and they buy into it and they understand exactly what their part of that mission is going to be. Those things are going to come down the road a little bit. But they also will be involved in the transformation of the military. We


can't get the job done without the Army Reserve and Guard. We're one team, one fight, and it's the Army.

BDII The Army has been used in several peacekeeping operations over the past few years. Are changes coming in the way we train so that we can better address those operations?

SMA I think the key to success really is focusing on warfighting skills. You know you can always come down, but if you focus just on peacekeeping operations then if you ever had to go into a high intensity war you'd have to ratchet back up on those basic skills that you need for warfighting. Understand that your warfighting skills are the key to success.

BDII Reserve forces have taken on an increased role in these operations as the situation stabilizes, for example, the National Guard command of Bosnia peacekeeping operations. Does this indicate an increased dependence on Reserve forces?

SMA Again, there's no question about it. We need the Guard and Re-



Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack A. Tilley reacts to Command Sgt. Maj. Catherine Cunliffe's entry in the HOOAH competition (who could yell hooah the loudest) as Command Sgt. Maj. Kathy Becher looks on.

serve. You know, when they drew down the military (you know we're down to 10 divisions now), we really depend prettily heavily on the Guard and Reserve now. I just don't think we could do it by ourselves. We're a combined arms team; we're a team all together. I don't know if it's going to increase, but I tell you we're going to continue to utilize the Reserve and Guard for both types of missions.

BDII Will that increased dependence eventually result in increased funding for Reserve Forces; for example, more training money and updating equipment, so that when we fall in on equipment we will have trained on the same sort of equipment?

SMA I think we're looking at things like that, I think it is really pretty smart to do that so we have the same types of equipment, but you know if we field a new vehicle, how many years does it

take to get to the force. You're talking about 10 or 15 years in some cases. What we do is we have a plan,

you know, division, corps and all that other stuff if we field a brand new vehicle. It's going to take a while to give it to the Reserves. In a perfect world, we'd want everybody to have the same type of equipment so we could deploy and fight on the same type of equipment. Will it ever happen? I wish it would happen. Will it? I don't know.

BDII Will the new slogan "An Army of one" reflect any sort of change of emphasis in basic training or in the way the Army runs?

SMA No. Absolutely not. You know, we're used to "Be all you can be." That's the older generation; we understand it, we build as a team. I think "Army of one" is focused on the new generation. I think it's a great

slogan, it's going to hopefully increase the amount of people that look into coming into the military. I don't think it's going to change anything other than the slogan. I also think it's the right focus for us now in the military.

BDII Regarding the black beret; there's been a lot of dissension out there on this issue. I understand there's a two-person Ranger team roadmarching to Washington D.C. to meet the president and present him with a deceased ranger's beret. Is this issue going away? Is it a done deal?

SMA As far as I'm concerned, it's a done deal. The chief of staff of the Army has directed that we wear the black beret on the 14th of June this year. We're going to start celebrating the birthday of the Army. We're going to start celebrating the history of the Army. You know the beret was worn by heavy units from '73 to '79 and then

"That beret doesn't make you any better a soldier, but it's a part of transforming our Army. That's the vision of our chief, and that's exactly what we're going to do."

— Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack A. Tilley

by the Rangers in '75. It's not about a beret, it's about what's in the beret -- you're a soldier or not a soldier. A beret is something for us. We have the best fighting force in the world and we're going to put that beret on, and we're going to be proud when we put it on, and we're going to start celebrating the Army birthday. I'll also tell you that when you go out there and fight wars and win wars, it's done by soldiers. That beret doesn't make you any better a soldier, but it's a part of transforming our Army. That's the vision of our chief, and that's exactly what we're going to do.

BDII The 88th Regional Support Command has command and control of most of the reserve units in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana,

Ohio and Michigan. What's the single most important message you want to get to out to all those soldiers?

SMA The same thing I tell everybody else. We're one team, it's the Army, and we're all focused together. But I'll also tell you as a noncommissioned officer, and I'm going to talk just to NCOs right now, stay focused in your lane. Understand what your responsibilities are and take care of soldiers. You know, I often tell a story about a senior NCO coming up to me and talking about theater strategy. Well I'm not worried about theater strategy. There are people that have to worry about that, but not me. I tell people to stay in their lane, and understand what their responsibilities are. Talk to soldiers and understand exactly what their concerns are.

BDII Anything else to add?

SMA Just that the Army Reserve and Guard are doing an outstanding job, and I appreciate everything you do. That includes everybody. I'm here for you and I appreciate what you're doing every day of your life. ♦



Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack A. Tilley speaks to an AUSA awards dinner.

Quiet professional speaks out

Anderson's brash style and hard work earns him Mentor of the Year

When the Fort McCoy Chapter of the U.S. Army Warrant Officer Association started looking at the nominations for the first Warrant Officer Mentor of the Year Award, one choice, CWO 3 Jim Anderson, stood out.

"It was unanimous," said CWO 4 Fred Cazzola, president-elect of the Fort McCoy chapter. "We felt the first one should go to Jim for all the work he's done trying to set up the Warrant Officer mentorship program."

Anderson's commitment to being a warrant officer is a driving force behind his involvement in these programs. "I sincerely take warrant officer mentoring to heart," the management branch chief for the 88th RSC Personnel Directorate said. "I'm very grateful for the opportunity to be a warrant officer. I'm proud to be a warrant officer."

The mentorship program is designed to help develop warrant officers, according to Cazzola. "It's a program of development and leadership designed to lead us into the future," Cazzola said. "It's also taking care of warrant officers – warrant officers taking care of warrant officers."

Anderson implemented his command's program in September of 1999, by hosting the first mentor conference. A nucleus of senior chief warrant officers from the Office of the Chief of the Army Reserve, Army Reserve Personnel Command, Full Time Support Management Division, and other power structures were invited to present information on issues and topics near and dear to warrant officers' hearts. A second conference is being scheduled to coincide with the Commander's Conference in May.

A Warrant Officer Mentorship Program binder, also developed by Anderson, was handed out at the conference to give warrant officers the tools needed to succeed. Included in the binder are expectations for warrant officers, tips for success for new warrant officers, a warrant officer education schedule with registration codes, and points of contact and phone numbers for the warrant officer career center at Fort Rucker. Also included is information on the prerequisites needed to become a warrant officer, and an application packet for any warrant officer candidates a current warrant officer comes in contact with.

Soldiers who think they might be warrant officer material are encouraged to put a packet in. "The first question that needs to be answered is does your MOS (military occupational specialty) transition into a warrant officer branch," said Anderson. "If not, we have to go another route. Sometimes we put soldiers in to become warrant officers based on their civilian experience."



CWO3 Jim Anderson displays the Mentor of the Year award presented by CWO4 Fred Cazzola, president-elect of the Fort McCoy Chapter of the Warrant Officer Association.

The important thing to remember is if there is interest in becoming a warrant officer, ask. "The code name for a warrant officer is the quiet professional," said Anderson. "That was given to us by a general, and it's supposed to be someone who is an expert in their specific field and gets it done. I don't want to be a quiet professional. I have found that sometimes the warrant officer corp gets left out or forgotten because no one says anything. So I speak up."

Speaking up has worked for Anderson. Without it this command's mentorship program would likely have never happened, and Anderson would likely have never received the 2000 Mentor of the Year award. "This is the very first one. I'm proud of that fact," said Anderson. Receiving the award came as a surprise to Anderson, who did not realize he had been nominated. "I submitted six names in nomination for this award to the association of people who have done a lot of work. If I have any input on the next award, I'm going to make sure one of them get it."

Knowing Anderson, one will. "Quiet professional is the code name," said Anderson, "but you have to speak up or you'll be forgotten." ♦

Interested in becoming a warrant officer, or need a Warrant Officer Mentorship Program binder? Call (800) THE-ARMY and speak with CWO 3 Jim Anderson at ext. 3059, or CWO 5 Howard Lundin at ext. 3080.

Lessons from the desert

From force integration, to the importance of family support, Operations Desert Storm/Shield were teaching moments



Soldiers from the 417th Quartermaster Company prepare their equipment. Soldiers from the unit spent time in Saudi Arabia during Desert Storm working on a fuel pipeline.

U.S. Army photo

By Capt. Jefferson Wolfe
367th MPAD, Whitehall, Ohio

Operations Desert Storm/Shield were a watershed event for the Reserve component, offering lessons that still hold true today, said Maj. Gen. John M. O'Connell, commander of the 88th RSC, when asked to reflect on the 10th anniversary of the Gulf War.

"The relevancy and integration of the Army Reserve – that was learned in the desert," O'Connell said.

The deployments came as a surprise to Reservists, who until then were often viewed as "weekend warriors," he said.

An event that marked the beginning of an increased reliance on Reserve manpower in the coming years, one of the key lessons learned was that the family support program was not ready.

"The size of this effort – 650 units and 86,000 Army Reservists deployed – it certainly had an impact," O'Connell said.

Some units had to create the family support programs from the ground up, he said. The programs may be difficult to administer, but are imperative nevertheless.

All together, 86,000 Reservists were deployed in Desert Shield/Storm. In what is now the 88th RSC, 55 units went, including 16 from Illinois, 14 from Ohio, 12 from Wisconsin, 6 from Indiana, 4 from Michigan, and 3 from Minnesota, O'Connell said.

Though the country supported the soldiers at home, not all civilian employers did back in the work place. This led to heightened awareness for employer support and job protection for members of the Guard and Reserve, which had not been emphasized before the operations.

The sun rises over Log Base Echo, a base camp in Saudi Arabia during Desert Storm.
photo by Colonel Sam Graves (ret.)



Soldiers from the 417th Quartermaster Company work on a vehicle while deployed to Saudi Arabia during Desert Storm.
U.S. Army photo

Morale was generally high among Reserve units, especially those who went over as a unit, he said.

"When they came back, most of them were tired, but excited that they did a good job," O'Connell said.

The Army at the time was in a state of draw down when Desert Storm/ Shield happened, O'Connell said. Although there were soldiers who left the reserve because of the deployment, the Army was already shrinking.

In the early 1990s, the USAR had about 319,000 soldiers. Today, it has about 205,000. "We're actually at

207,000 now – we're above strength," O'Connell said.

Smaller than ever before, the Army cannot deploy without Reservists, who now make up 37 percent of the branch. In fact, 54 percent of the Army's units are Reserve units, while 46 percent are in the active component.

The reserve components save the active component more than 13 million man days a year, O'Connell said. Although the Army has gotten smaller since Desert Shield/Storm, the number of deployments for Reservists has increased.

Almost all of the Army's civil affairs units are in the Reserve, as well as many of the specialty units, like public affairs, postal, fire fighting, medical and finance units.

O'Connell said the developing trend since the Gulf War indicates that Reservists will continue to augment active duty units in a variety of roles, from peacekeeping duties to humanitarian missions.

"It has to be a constant focus that you can be deployed," he said. ♦

Dealing with issues ranging from combat stress management to marital and substance abuse, Platoni is still helping soldiers cope with life...

after the parades

By Staff Sgt. David Bennett
367th MPAD, Whitehall, Ohio

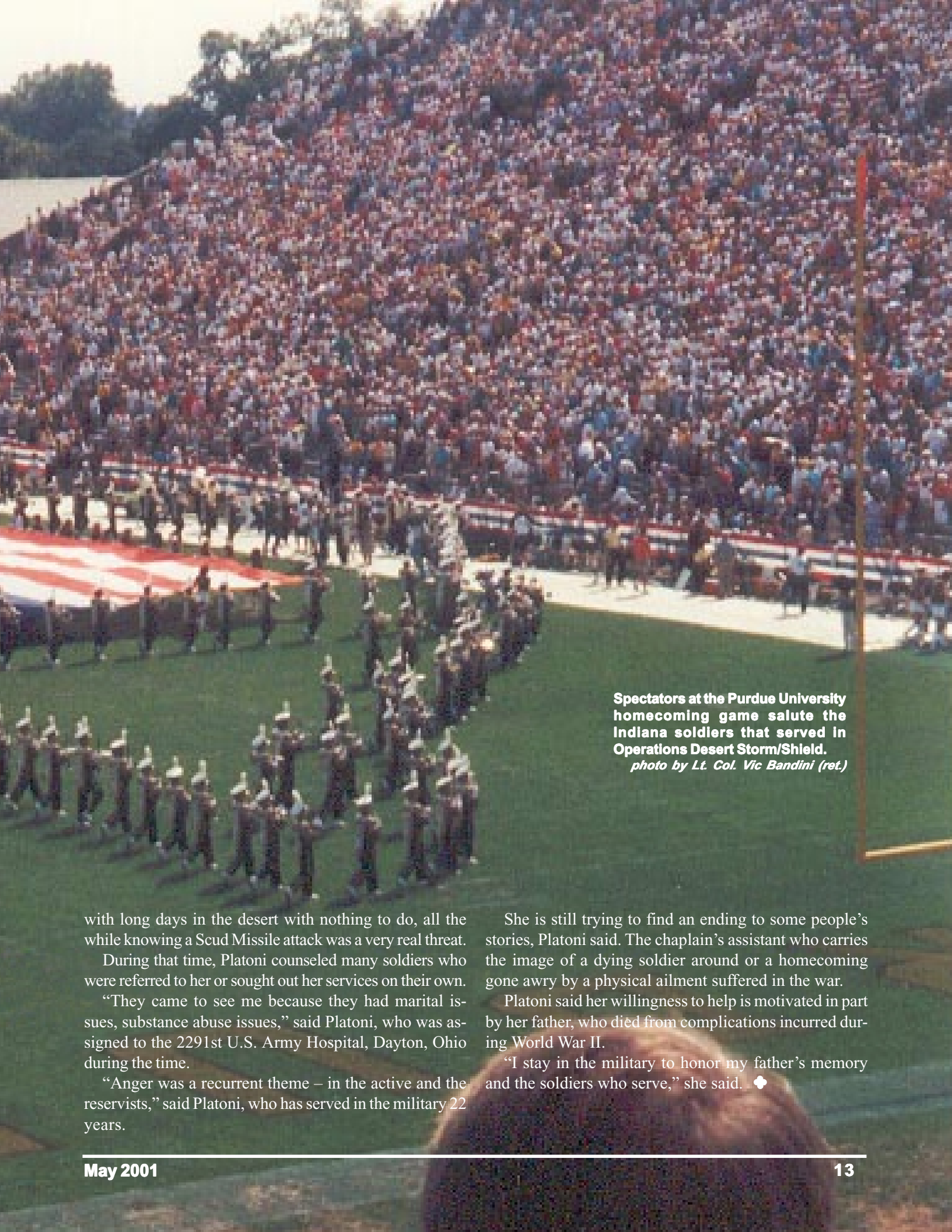
Like many reservists, Lt. Col. Katherine Platoni continues to deal with the Gulf War 10 years later. Their struggles have become her struggles. From good marriages gone badly to independent businesses gone bust, Platoni has proved a solid sounding board for service members who grapple with the war a decade later.

A clinical psychiatrist with a successful civilian practice in Centerville, Ohio, Platoni serves as a clinical psychiatrist attached to the 307th Medical Group in White hall. Since 1991, Platoni recounts the hundreds of soldiers who found it hard adjusting upon returning home from the

war and still remains in contact with a handful of soldiers who struggle with the experience to this day.

"It's been extremely difficult for some people," she said.

Deployed in 1991 to Fort Lee and then Fort Belvoir, Va., in 1991 when the first service members began to rotate back to the U.S., Platoni was instrumental in developing a debriefing program centered on combat stress management. Platoni said stress was abundant for many who served, either from frustration borne of boredom, or fear borne of danger. She said many soldiers dealt



Spectators at the Purdue University homecoming game salute the Indiana soldiers that served in Operations Desert Storm/Shield.

photo by Lt. Col. Vic Bandini (ret.)

with long days in the desert with nothing to do, all the while knowing a Scud Missile attack was a very real threat.

During that time, Platoni counseled many soldiers who were referred to her or sought out her services on their own.

“They came to see me because they had marital issues, substance abuse issues,” said Platoni, who was assigned to the 2291st U.S. Army Hospital, Dayton, Ohio during the time.

“Anger was a recurrent theme – in the active and the reservists,” said Platoni, who has served in the military 22 years.

She is still trying to find an ending to some people’s stories, Platoni said. The chaplain’s assistant who carries the image of a dying soldier around or a homecoming gone awry by a physical ailment suffered in the war.

Platoni said her willingness to help is motivated in part by her father, who died from complications incurred during World War II.

“I stay in the military to honor my father’s memory and the soldiers who serve,” she said. ♦

Ten years after t



The Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm

(From

- Iraq invades Kuwait, Aug. 2, 1990
- First U.S. forces (F-15 Eagle fighters from Langley Air Force Base, Va.) arrive in Saudi Arabia, Aug. 7
- Operation Desert Storm and air war phase begins, 3 a.m., Jan. 17, 1991 (Jan. 16, 7 p.m. Eastern)
- U.S. Patriot missile successfully intercepts first Scud, over Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, Jan. 17
- DoD announces deployment of Europe-based Patriot missiles and crews to Israel, Jan. 19
- Iraqis attack Khafji, Saudi Arabia, Jan. 29
- Award of the National Defense Service Medal authorized, Feb. 21
- Operation Desert Shield begins, Aug. 7
- First Operation Desert Shield-related U.S. death, Aug. 12
- Iraq attacks Israel with seven Scud missiles, Jan. 17
- President Bush authorizes the call-up of up to 1 million National Guardsmen and Reservists for up to two years, Jan. 18
- Iraq creates massive oil slick in gulf, Jan. 25
- Iraq captures first U.S. female prisoner of war, Jan. 31
- Iraqis ignite 700 oil wells in Kuwait, Feb.

the Storm

Fast Facts About Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm *U.S. casualties:* 148 battle deaths, 145 nonbattle deaths Army: 98 battle; 105 nonbattle Navy: 6 battle; 8 nonbattle Marines: 24 battle; 26 nonbattle Air Force: 20 battle; 6 nonbattle Women killed: 15 **U.S. wounded in action:** 467

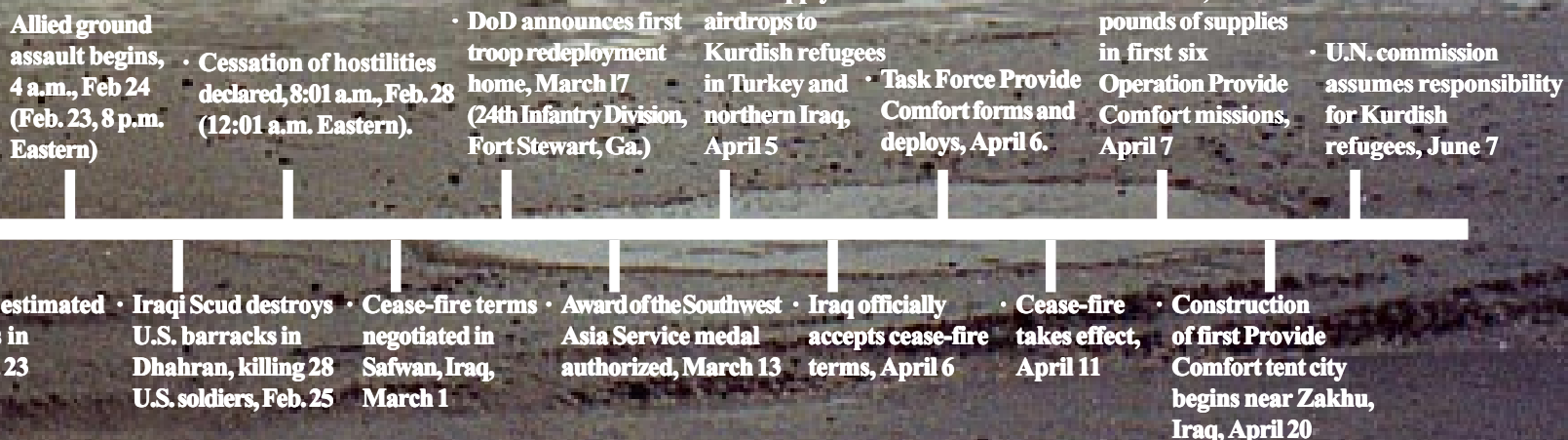
Estimated Iraqi Losses: (Reported by U.S. Central Command, March 7, 1991) 36 fixed-wing aircraft in air-to-air engagements; 6 helicopters in air-to-air engagements, 68 fixed- and 13 rotary-wing aircraft destroyed on the ground; 137 Iraqi aircraft flown to Iran; 3,700 of 4,280 battle tanks; 2,400 of 2,870 assorted other armored vehicles; 2,600 of 3,110 assorted artillery pieces; 19 naval ships sunk, 6 damaged; 42 divisions made combat-ineffective

Enemy prisoners of war captured: U.S. forces released 71,204 to Saudi control. (From the 1991 *Defense Almanac*)

Burning Kuwaiti oil fields greeted U.S. soldiers after they drove off Iraqi forces.
photo by Lt. Col. Vic Bandini (ret.)

Timeline

in the 1991 "Defense Almanac.")



Since Desert Storm, reserve soldiers have been called on more than ever. Four units from the 88th Regional Support Command are currently deployed. The 318th Press Camp Headquarters is scheduled to return from Bosnia in April. The 376th Finance Battalion, 391st Military Police Battalion, and the 307th Medical Group left in March for duty in Kosovo. Throughout the RSC, soldiers are responding to the...

call to duty

Medical Group takes command

By Master Sgt. Dave Johnson, 367th MPAD, Whitehall, Ohio

The 307th Medical Group, a medical headquarters element based in Columbus, Ohio, became the first Reserve unit to take charge of a medical command and control mission involving active forces when it traveled to Kosovo in March.

The 307th, commanded by Col. Dean Sienko, will head the Operation Joint Guardian medical task force, Medical Falcon 4, at Camp Bondsteel.

"Everybody is upbeat, ready and raring to go," said Lt. Col. Mark A. Dougherty, the full-time Active Guard-Reserve training and operations officer for 307th. "We had to turn soldiers away who volunteered for this mission because we didn't have enough slots to accommodate everyone who wanted to go." Dougherty said integrating a reserve unit into command and control is easier because of quality senior leadership present in today's Army.

"Task Force Medical Falcon 4 will further demonstrate that the (Reserve) can live up to the expectations that the Army has for successfully deploying its reserve medical forces," Sienko said. "Moreover, by giving the command and

control of the task force, the Army is making a clear statement of confidence that the Reserve can do the job."

The 307th will oversee two Reserve units: a combat support hospital and a ground ambulance; and four Active units: a medical logistics company, combat stress control company, veterinary services detachment, and a preventative medicine company.

"After this mission is completed, we will bring back to the Army Reserve a better combat health support concept and it will change how we train in the Reserve," said Maj. Martin G. Sichel, medical operations task force officer.

Duties for 307th will vary during its deployment.

"We will provide preventative health care, hospitalization, surgical and psychiatric care, veterinary and dental services, provide technical support in rural villages, coordinate and provide medical logistics, utilize combat stress control measures and provide air and ground evacuation," Sichel said.



Master Sgt. David Dushefski, 307th Medical Group, swings Allisa B. Marsiglia, 4, during the going away ceremony in Columbus, Ohio, which honored the troops about to deploy to Kosovo. Allisa is the daughter of Capt. Joseph Marsiglia, 307th Med. Group.

photo by Sgt. 1st Class Jim Lowery

Dougherty said the 307th would be providing other types of care as well.

"The emergency room on Camp Bondsteel is very busy, averaging more than one-and-a-half trauma cases daily," Dougherty said. "There are numerous car accidents, kids stepping on land mines, people — usually kids — grabbing downed electrical wires."

"There is a huge humanitarian slice to this undertaking," added Dougherty.

It's a huge mission period. "There is a lot of ground and air evacuation medical maneuvering," said Sichel. "This is a stepping stone for future Army Reserve missions because of AC OPTEMPO (active component operational tempo)."

"It portends great things for the future of reserve medical forces," said Sienko. ♦

391st to keep peace

By Staff Sgt. Mike Sweet, 367th MPAD, Whitehall, Ohio

This St. Patrick's day, family and friends of a team of peacekeepers had few thoughts of green beer and leprechauns as they gathered to say goodbye to the reservists heading to war-torn Kosovo.

The 35 members of the Whitehall, Ohio-based 391st Military Police Battalion, which specializes in prisoners of war internment, will join forces with citizen-soldiers from Nebraska to run the interment facility in Kosovo.

"I'm ready to go," said Staff Sgt. Jason D. Blankenship, 391st. "This is going to be an experience."

The Kosovo-bound peacekeepers pass through Fort Benning, Ga., where they will polish up on force protection skills they will employ while in Kosovo.

"We've been working on these tasks since we first found out about the mission," said Sgt. 1st Class George K. Croom, the noncommis-

sioned officer in charge of the contingent of soldiers heading to Kosovo. "We're ready for anything they have for us at Benning."

The peacekeepers assigned to the mission to Kosovo have not only trained up on common soldiers' skills, they have also become proficient in handcuffing techniques and prisoner searches.

Many civic leaders from Central Ohio were on hand to send off the reservists and comfort family members left behind.

"This has got to be the largest contingent of reservists to leave Central Ohio since Desert Storm," said Mark Bell, a representative of U. S. Rep. Pat Tiberi of Ohio's 12th District. Bell presented a flag which recently flew over the U.S. Capitol to the soldiers.

Whitehall Mayor John Wolf was on hand to wish the reservists a quick return.

"Keeping the peace and protecting your charges, in an area of the



Sgt. 1st Class Gary Lykins comforts his daughter Kayla, 10, during ceremonies just prior to his departure for Kosovo.

photo by Sgt. 1st Class Jim Lowery

world where, for centuries, they have been killing each other in the name of religion, is a daunting task," Wolf said. "I have no doubt that the 391st will uphold the highest traditions of our country." ♦

376th pays bills

By Staff Sgt. Bill Geddes, 364th MPAD, Fort Snelling, Minn.

If any Reserve unit should be prepared to deploy soldiers, it would be the 376th Finance Battalion.

When the Wausau, Wis.-based unit deployed a 15-soldier detachment to Kosovo this march, it marked the third time soldiers from the unit had deployed in the past ten years.

Those deploying this time around will be at base camps throughout Kosovo taking care of finance issues ranging from soldier pay problems to the paying of vendors.

"We're really excited about it," said 1st Lt. Patty Foley, commander of the detachment. "There's always going to be hesitation because of fam-

ily, but everybody is looking forward to the new experience."

Leaving was, however, not easy. "A majority of family members and non-deploying soldiers in the unit showed up to send us off," Foley said. "It was a pretty emotional time. It was not easy. Once we were all on the bus though, and had physically left, everybody seemed to be doing better."

Foley is sure the unit will continue to do better. "We have the knowledge, we've gone through the tactical training," She said. "We're prepared and ready to hit the ground running." ♦



Spec. Matthew Fermanich gets instruction on use of the protective mask from Sgt. 1st Class Donald Leander prior to leaving for Kosovo.

Blue Devil Basic Challenge strives to help recruits who are... **facing fear**

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Bill Geddes, 88th RSC PAO, Fort Snelling, Minn.

Fear of the unknown can have a paralyzing effect -- like a young toddler walking into a daycare class for the first time, or a deer looking into the headlights of an oncoming car. Not knowing what is coming can stop you in your tracks.

It is that fear that the Blue Devil Basic Challenge works to overcome. A program begun by the 88th Regional Support Command to prepare new recruits for basic training, the Challenge works to overcome the stereotypes of basic training instilled into society by movies ranging from classics such as *Stripes* or *Full Metal Jacket* to Pauley Shore's *In The Army Now*. That fear of the unknown is believed to be the major reason there is a 25 percent no-ship rate for new soldiers. Rather than face the fear, recruits back out of their commitment.

Even recruits with a connection to the military face that fear. Pvt. Steven Gutierrez, whose father, 1st Sgt. Geary Gutierrez, is in the 452nd Combat Support Hospital, didn't admit to having any fear over the unknown, but did allow that it was something he was happy to go through.

"I'm looking forward to it because I want to get the jitters out for basic training and get a taste as to what it will really be like," Gutierrez said shortly after he arrived at Fort McCoy, Wis., for the Challenge. "I've watched videos and everything, but nothing can prepare you for actually being there. I'm just looking to get head and shoulders above everybody

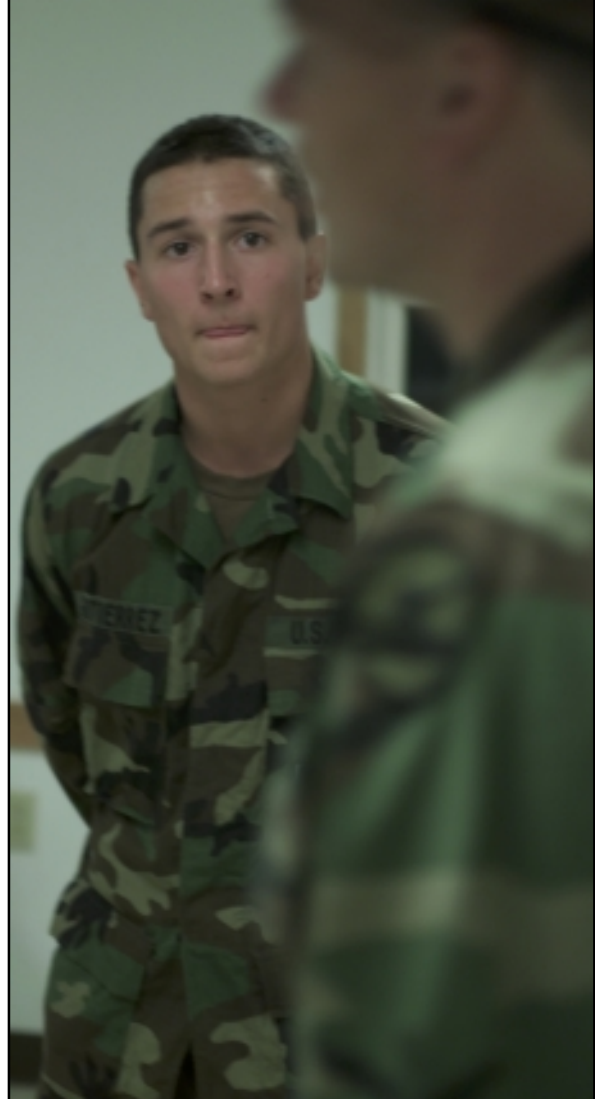
else in basic so I can be the best I can be."

"I was nervous coming in, I didn't really know what to expect," the 18-year-old recruit said. "I've heard stories about drill sergeants, but it's still quite a surprise. The showers and everything (you get 20 seconds to take a shower), getting ready for bed and making your bunk; I never expected anything like this."

As nervous as he was, Gutierrez did see the value in what he was doing. "The drill sergeants are intimidating, but they are here to help you. That's what I keep in my mind; they're not here to hurt you, they're here to make you a soldier — that's their job. They're not here to be your friend. They are good at what they do, and they are here to make you a better person, a better soldier, more disciplined."

Most recruits going to basic training share Gutierrez's nervousness, largely because less than 6 percent of the population under the age of 60 have ever served in the military. With that disconnect between the civilian population and the Army, anything that can alleviate the fear helps.

"The demographics have changed," said Sgt. 1st Class Gary Campbell, 84th Division. "Most of the young soldiers who enlist now don't have a dad or relative who has been in the military. The recruits now haven't heard the war stories, they don't know very much about the military. These young soldiers who have enlisted need to know they can go to basic training and



Pvt. Steven Gutierrez listens nervously to a drill sergeant at the Blue Devil Basic Challenge.

Pvt. Steven Gutierrez takes the sit-up portion of the Army Physical Fitness Test. He scored a 300 when he entered Basic Training at Fort Jackson.





Sgt. 1st Class Danny Jennings ensures Pvt. Steven Gutierrez's weapon is on safe.

Pvt. Steven Gutierrez learns to make a bunk the Army way at the Blue Devil Basic Challenge.



make it — millions before them have done it.”

Results from the Challenge held so far have been encouraging. “When I looked at the no-show rates for all soldiers shipping to Fort Jackson last summer, they were at about 24 percent,” said Command Sgt. Maj. John Vacho, 376th Finance Battalion, Wausau, Wis. “The no-show rate for soldiers who had attended the Blue Devil Basic Challenge was about 7 to 8 percent.”

The Blue Devil Basic Challenge attendees who were no-shows use some of the same excuses — from ‘I’m getting married,’ to ‘I didn’t get the clearance I needed,’ — but as Vacho said, “A no-show rate of 7 to 8 percent is a heck of a lot better than 24 percent.”

Once Gutierrez shipped, he was even happier he had been to the Challenge. “The Blue Devil Basic Challenge totally helped me out,” Gutierrez

“Pvt. Gutierrez is really a top-notch soldier,” said Sgt. 1st Class Danny Jennings, a drill sergeant for Company B, 2/28th Infantry Regiment, Fort Jackson, S.C. “We need more like him. This kid definitely fit right into basic training. The transition was really easy for him; basic training was probably too easy for him.”

“I think it’s helpful having a program like the Blue Devil Basic Challenge out there,” Jennings added. “I think it’s a plus to really get them into the mindframe as to what basic training is like. It’s a plus more mentally than anything else.”

Other soldiers in Gutierrez’s platoon could see it too. “I wish I would have had access to a program like the Blue Devil Basic Challenge,” said Pvt. Timothy Worthy, an Austin, Texas, native bound for flight school in the active Army. “You come in already lost, because they’re running you in circles to begin with. Then they come in and

“It helps them out, gets them ahead of the game. When they get down here, they aren’t lost, they’re not scared. That’s a big part of why a lot of them quit right off the bat is a fear of the unknown.”

— Sgt. 1st Class David Kuhnert

said. “I came in here knowing all my marching, stationary and facing movements, and I was familiar with the M-16. I knew how to take it apart by the time I got here. Getting up in the morning and making my bunk — it was the same here as it was up there. I was squared away when I got here, so I was pretty lucky to go to the Blue Devil Basic Challenge.”

The drill sergeants at Fort Jackson could see how squared away he was. Gutierrez was made a squad leader when he first arrived, and was assistant platoon guy until the platoon guy was fired.

tell you to do something, and you don’t know exactly the way it’s supposed to be done. (Gutierrez) pretty much knew the basics as to what had to be done. It helped a lot.”

Sgt. 1st Class David Kuhnert, a drill sergeant for Company B, 2/28th Infantry Regiment at Fort Jackson, S.C., agreed. “It helps them out, gets them ahead of the game. When they get down here, they aren’t lost, they’re not scared. That’s a big part of why a lot of them quit right off the bat is a fear of the unknown.” ♦

Listecky's expert blending of civilian ministry and Army chaplaincy helped lead to an ... ordination to bishop

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Jerome Listecky didn't expect to be named an auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Chicago. But after the Jan. 8 ordination, a bishop he was, much to the delight of the thousands gathered at Holy Name Cathedral here.

"I was told on Oct. 25 (2000)," Listecky said. "That morning I was called to the residence of the cardinal (Cardinal Francis George), and he told me in a private conference that the Holy See (the Vatican office) had made me an auxiliary bishop, much to the surprise of both of us."

Listecky's surprise was understandable. There are 336 bishop positions throughout the United States, and more than 46,405 priests who are potential candidates for those positions, according to the 2001 Official Catholic Directory. And while priests don't actively campaign to become bishop, ("It's not like the military at all," said Listecky, "they don't have a board,") it

is considered a great privilege to be ordained a bishop. Listecky is, according to the Office of the Chief of Chaplains, Department of the Army, the first chaplain to be appointed an auxiliary bishop while still serving in the Army.

A bishop is seen in the Roman Catholic church as a successor of the Apostles, according to the Archdiocese of Chicago. He receives the office of teaching, governing and sanctifying upon ordination and is expected to exercise the office in union with the pope and his brother bishops around the world.

So how did Listecky get selected for the position? "What happens is from time to time the bishops of the region or the Apostolic Nuncio (the ambassador from Rome to the United States) will submit names of people who should potentially be looked at as bishops," Listecky said. The Holy See then studies the recommendations, and if they are serious about a candidate, send letters called scrutinies or interrogatories to ac-

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Jerome Listecky is presented to the congregation by Cardinal Francis George.



Cardinal Francis George is the head of the Archdiocese of Chicago. He is performing the Eucharist, a mixture of consecrated bread and wine (the outpouring of the Holy Spirit).

quaintances of the candidate with questions about the person's character, ability to maintain and teach the faith and about a person's pastoral care or liturgical ability. Once the letters are returned, they are looked at to see if the person is an apt candidate.

"There may be hundreds of apt candidates," Listecki said "It just depends upon whether someone puts you on what they refer to as a *turna* (three names to fill an open position). The Pope can immediately select one of the three names – or he can select anyone he wants to make the bishop. No one knows exactly what the process is, but we know that those names usually go before the pope and he selects one of them."


As surprising as the selection was to Listecki, once the formal announcement was made Nov. 7 by the Vatican, congratulatory calls, emails and faxes began to pour in to St. Ignatius Church where Listecki serves as the parish priest. Listecki, bound by papal secrecy, had to keep it quiet until then. "It was a real slow newsday of course," said Listecki, "with the presidential election and everything." Those in attendance at the Jan. 8 ordination echoed the congratulatory messages finding Listecki to be deserving of the honor.

"Jerome was a chaplain in the 86th Army Command (ARCOM) and the 85th Division when I served in the

ARCOM as the deputy commander," said Maj. Gen. (ret.) John E. Scully, former commander of the 102nd ARCOM. "He's an outstanding priest, and he's a wonderful chaplain because, like most Army chaplains, he takes care of everybody. His humility has impressed me most. Somebody asked him the other day 'Now that you're bishop, what are we going to call you?' He said 'Well, you can call me Jerry, or Chaplain Listecki.' I think that just communicates the kind of man he is."

Rev. Steve Baseau, a priest in the Archdiocese of Kansas City, Kansas, agreed. "He is a priest's priest. Somebody like him, to use as a point of recruitment (for the Army), would be excellent. He is a very positive image of priesthood, a very positive image of the church, and he conveys it in a very joyful way too. It makes perfect sense he was consecrated as a bishop today because he really stands out above the rest."

Lt. Col. Eric Wester, Office of the Chief of Chaplains, Department of the Army, agreed. "Bishop Listecki represents a perfect example of combining his civilian ministry, faithful both to the church, and his outreach to the Army chaplaincy – faithful to the nation. He has blended those beautifully. This is evidence that it's possible to be recognized for your fantastic gifts in ministry, both as an ordained clergyman, and as a chaplain in the



Cis George anoints
Chaplain (Lt. Col.)
cki using chrism (a
oil and balsam
y a bishop and used
in various church
It is the final sign of
g of the Holy Spirit.

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Jerome Listecki (standing
on the right at the altar) takes part in his first
Liturgy of the Eucharist as bishop.

Armed Forces. That's the cornerstone."

Listecki feels he's gotten just as much out of it though. "It's very rewarding. It's hard for them (priests and seminarians) to be put into my shoes and experiences, but certainly I share with them that whatever they would do and however they would give to the men and women in the service, much more comes back to the minister than is given."

Having said that, Listecki, who currently serves as the chaplain for the Chicagoland area under the 330th Medical Brigade, at this point plans on continuing his Army service.

"Right now, it's a bit overwhelming," Listecki said. "But I wouldn't be a priest if I didn't believe in God's grace and the work of the Holy Spirit. What I do is open myself up to that, and say, 'If God wants me here, and He's given me this mission, He's going to give me the grace and strength to get through it.' I look upon this as God taking one more step, transforming me in this area and calling me to do something more for the people of God." ♦



Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Jerome Listecki (left) looks on as Mass continues after his ordination as auxiliary bishop.

U.S. Army chaplaincy faces Father famine

The U.S. Army Chaplaincy could use a few more chaplains like the newly ordained Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Jerry Listecki, newly ordained auxiliary bishop at the Archdiocese of Chicago. According to the Office of the Chief of Chaplains, the Army is facing a critical shortage of priests, with only 98 Roman Catholic priests in the U.S. Army out of 1,290 chaplains, or 8 percent of the total chaplaincy. In contrast, 25 percent of the soldiers in the Army and their family members are Catholic (approximately 250,000 people).

"It's critical that we identify clergy of all faith groups, but particularly priests," said Lt. Col. Eric Wester, Office of the Chief of Chaplains. "They serve a large segment of our Army. We have soldiers and family members now who are serving, and they shouldn't have to forgo the practice of their faith because of the shortage of priests."

The situation may get worse before it gets better. The average age of priests on active duty is 54. In the next 10 years, over half of the priests serving will be lost to mandatory retirement.

The Army's need is more critical than that of the Navy or the Air Force. As of Sept. 30, 1999, the Navy had 882 chaplains, 182 of which were priests (21 percent) and the Air Force had 616 chaplains, 125 of which were priests (20 percent). The Army has significantly more people than the other services, and fewer priests to serve them.

Why the discrepancy? "I think the main challenge is the Catholic Church in the United States has a graying clergy, and a diminished clergy in terms of the numbers of priests available," said Wester. "Those two things are important, as it reduces the pool of those who might be attracted to active duty."

Priests and seminarians who are 50 years of age or younger, in good health, physically fit, and are willing to serve in this missionary apostolate are encouraged to look into becoming an Army chaplain. The priest/chaplain would be simultaneously serving the needs of the Church and the nation with a great group of young Americans.

As a part of the chaplaincy, the priest/seminarian receives training and experience that adds to his value upon his return (e.g. clinical pastoral education, language training, graduate school opportunities). A chaplain receives the same pay, benefits and allowances as any other officer of his rank, and is eligible for full retirement benefits if he serves twenty years. A priest stays under the control of his Ordinary/Superior – he can be called home at any time.

If interested in the chaplaincy, or if you know someone who might be, call or write:

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) David Kenehan
Office of the Chief of Chaplains
1421 Jefferson Davis Highway — Suite 10600
Arlington, VA 22202-3259
(800) 452-7617 toll free
703-601-0077 voice
703-601-4455 fax
kenehda@occh-nt.arm.mil

Army Earth Day celebration

By Maj. Alan Duff,
88th RSC Environmental Division.

April 22, 2001 is the 31st anniversary of Earth Day. Each year, the worldwide community joins together during the 3rd week of April in recognition that sustained actions are needed now or the continuing degradation of our earth will endanger future generations. Although each year may feature a different theme, the overriding goal of the Earth Day movement is to preserve our world's land, air and water resources.

The Army's Role in Earth Day

As a major owner and user of land, the Army has a strong interest in supporting this occasion. The Army has joined with local communities around the world to initiate earth-day cleanup events since the first Earth Day in 1970. Army Chief of Staff General Shinseki supports the military's role in Earth Day by stating that "Being a good environmental steward is everyone's responsibility, from recycling, to preventing pollution through proper management of hazardous material, to planning training activities in order to address environmental and cultural concerns."

What is the 88th doing?

The 88th RSC is actively involved in sustaining our valuable training land. The 88th trains several hundred soldiers each year on hazardous waste management and the result has been no environmental penalties while managing more than 150 tons of hazardous waste during the past five years. From 1995 to 2001, the 88th has removed 215 underground storage tanks that posed a threat to groundwater quality. In Marion, Ohio, the 88th has removed 50 drums of waste,

implemented a surface water & surface soils monitoring program and is further investigating remedial measures for a 127-acre property that was severely contaminated in the mid-20th century by an old engineering depot and local industries. The USAR in Arlington Heights, Illinois recently joined with the local community and state agencies to sponsor a Hazardous Waste Collection Day in which more than 700 drums of hazardous materials were collected for proper management.

In the office setting, the 88th has

ing as a team, the greatest impact is accomplished through small steps conducted by each of us as individuals. Collectively, the small step of placing waste paper into a recycling bin rather than the trash can will result in a reduction of 40% of our waste going to the landfill. These small efforts may seem trivial, but by doing the "right thing," we form habits that impact future generations. We can all do our part to better manage waste by the way we Buy, Use and Discard (BUD) item's we use each day.

Other efforts we can undertake include reducing our use of water, planting a tree, and picking up litter. We can even reduce the amount of junk mail we receive by writing to the following and asking to be removed from mailing lists:

Mail Preference Service

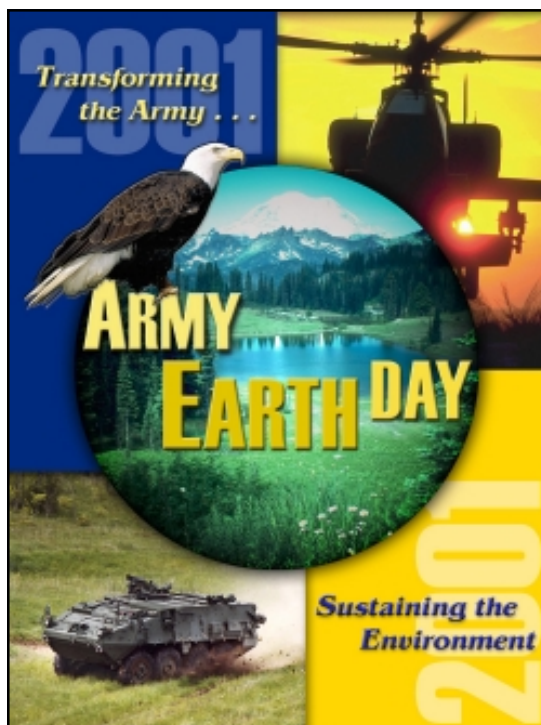
P.O. Box 9008

Farmingdale, NY 11735-9008

Why should we participate?

Preserving our natural resources (i.e., land, water & air) requires that we each "pitch in" and do the right thing. Besides environmental benefits, doing the right thing often results in cost savings as new products are usually less expensive than making new items out of raw materials. Finally, we must participate to maintain a high level of health standards without toxins in our groundwater, litter on our land and smog in our cities. As a soldier, our actions show the local community that while performing our military mission, we are also sustaining the environment.

If you are interested in hazardous waste training opportunities, contact David Torgersen at (612) 713-3043 or e-mail at david.torgersen@usarc-emh2.army.mil. ♦



placed more than 6,500 recycling containers throughout the command. Contract language is being developed that requires demolition contractors to recover materials prior to demolition, an action that is expected to abate several tons from landfill disposal each year.

What can each of us do?

Although larger environmental projects often require extensive efforts involving many specialists work-

More than \$700,000 available to soldiers

There has never been a better time to go back to school. The U.S. Army Reserve is now offering tuition assistance for enlisted soldiers, officers and warrant officers wishing to start or finish up a college or technical degree, and the 88th RSC has more than \$700,000 available that must be used this year. Any money not used this year will result in the 88th RSC getting less money next year.

Who qualifies?

Just about everyone. If you are a drilling reservist in good standing, you may apply. Soldiers flagged for APFT failure or weight control are also eligible.

Enlisted soldiers must have sufficient time remaining on their term of service to complete the course before separation. Commissioned and warrant officers must have at least four years of Selected Reserve service remaining from the completion date of the course for which tuition assistance is provided.

What is it for?

This money is available for pursuing certificates, or associate's, bachelor's, and master's degrees. So, if you already have an associate's degree, use it for your bachelor's degree or for a technical certificate. You must

declare an educational goal leading to a technical certificate or a credential higher than your current degree level, capping at master's level. Just make sure your school is accredited. (Check the U.S. Department of Education's Web site on accreditation at: www.ed.gov/offices/OPE/accreditation.)

Already have tuition benefits?

You may still use your other benefits, such as the Montgomery GI Bill, just not for the same course.

What is the limit?

Tuition Assistance not only covers tuition, but instructional fees and lab or shop fees, for on-campus or independent study, up to the following limits:

- 75% of tuition up to \$187.50 per semester hour or \$125 per quarter hour
- \$3500 per fiscal year

Where to begin?

Contact the 88th RSC Education Office at 612) 713-3081/3432 or 1-800-THE ARMY ext. 3081/3432 or Fax: (612) 713-3365, or ask your unit administrator to get the required forms off the 88th RSC public drive at p:\1Resour\dcsp\Hrd\Tuition Assistance. ♦

Tricare changes improve soldier care

TRICARE, the military health care system which processes 30 million claims a year for 9 million active duty personnel, dependents and retirees is changing before the fiscal year ends. The improvements are required by the National Defense Authorization Act, signed into law in October 2000. Key elements of the NDAA:

- 1 April 2001 – TRICARE Senior Pharmacy Program starts. All beneficiaries ages 65 and older pay modest co-pays when they use National Mail Order Pharmacy and retail network pharmacies. A 90-day supply of medication costs as little as \$9 through the mail-order program.
- 28 April 2001 – Active duty family members enrolled in TRICARE Prime will no longer make co-payments for care from civilian providers.
- 1 October 2001 – Medicare-eligible beneficiaries become eligible for "TRICARE-for-Life."

· 1 April 2002 – TRICARE Prime Remote program will be expanded to active duty family members throughout the continental United States.

· 1 October 2001 – Chiropractic benefits phase in over a five-year period

Of particular importance to reservists is the TRICARE Dental Program managed by United Concordia that started February 1, 2001. For \$7.63 a month deducted from drill pay, a soldier may obtain up to \$1,200 in authorized dental benefits per enrollment year. A premium payment, completed enrollment form and twelve-month commitment is required. Family members may also enroll in the TDP.

For any medical and dental entitlements, soldiers and their dependents must be enrolled correctly in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS). Each soldier is responsible for reporting information such as marriage, divorce, name

changes, adoptions, etc. to DEERS. Soldiers and their dependents ages 10 and up must have a military ID card with photo. Retirees and their dependents also need ID cards.

Call 1-800-THE ARMY #3615 to reach the 88th Regional Support Command Health Benefits Coordinator or use these web sites and toll-free numbers for further information:

- * TRICARE web page: www.tricare.osd.mil
- * TriWest (TRICARE contractor for Minnesota residents): www.triwest.com 1-888-874-9378
- * Anthem Alliance (TRICARE contractor for WI, MI, IL, IN, OH): www.anthemalliance.com 1-800-941-4501
- * United Concordia TRICARE Dental Plan: www.ucci.com 1-800-866-8499
- * National Mail Order Pharmacy: www.merckmedco.com 1-800-903-4680
- * Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System 1-800-538-9552

Maureen J. Thayer
88th RSC Surgeon's Office ♦

Ten-Miler team forming

The 88th Regional Support Command Army Ten-Miler championship running team is looking for interested and serious runners to participate in the 17th Annual Army Ten-Miler. In the past four years, the 88th RSC running teams have placed 1st, 1st, 3rd, and 4th, in the Reserve Team Division. This year the 88th is out to defend its championship trophy. The 88th also plans to send several other teams to the Army Ten-Miler (female team, over-40 team or a coed team). Decisions on the number and types of teams will be made just before team selections.

Team selections will be held Aug. 20-23, based on race results within the previous 60 days of selection. Team registration will be sent out no later than the Aug. 31. Runners are asked to submit a racing biography (name, age, address, telephone numbers, unit address, race history) plus results from their qualifying race. 1st. Lt. Francisco Artley, the 88th RSC team captain, will identify races that can be used as qualifiers. He is looking for races that are between 10 and 13 miles, preferably flat courses. Send information on any races that meet this criteria to francisco.artley@usarc-emh2.army.mil or call 1-800-THE-ARMY ext. 3071.

The Army Ten-Miler will be held on Oct. 14. It is the largest ten-mile run in the United States with an expected 16,000 runners this year. The run is hosted by the U.S. Army Military District of Washington and the Association of the U.S. Army. Race information is available on the Army Ten-Miler Home Page: www.armytenmiler.com, and on the AUSA Home Page at www.ause.org. Registration information is also available on the Army Ten-Miler Home Page. The 88th's team registration, team selection, travel, and hotel arrangements, will be handled by Artley and new coordinators Capts. Jacqueline Conlan (ext. 3308), and Lee Gearhart (ext. 3082).

There are many excellent runners within this command. Please put the word out in formations, staff meetings, etc. Last year soldiers called the 88th after the deadline inquiring about the Army Ten-Miler and stating that they had not received any information from their units. Once selections are made the teams cannot be changed. ♦

88th RSC USAR Scholarships awarded



The winners of two \$500 88th RSC USAR Scholarship were announced at the October 2000 Commanders Conference.

Amie N. Tator, daughter of Sgt. Maj. Craig Tator, and Rebe McElwee-Wise (pictured above receiving a \$500 check from Brig. Gen. John Schuster, Reserve Officer Association representative), daughter of Command Sgt.

Maj. Carl Wise, received the scholarships, which are funded by USAA (United Services Automobile Association).

The scholarships are available to U.S. Army Reserve enlisted soldiers or their dependents. Check 88th RSC Pamphlet 140-112, for eligibility requirements and an application packet. Application deadline is June 1.

Chain of command pictures

Contact the Training and Support Center at Fort McCoy for chain of command pictures.

They can be reached at (608) 388-2717 commercial, or DSN at 280-2717.

JAG launches legal services website

WASHINGTON(Army News Service) — The U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps launched a legal services Web site, designed as a portal of legal information for military members and their families.

The site, <http://www.jagcnet.army.mil/Legal>, creates a "virtual" legal information and resource knowledge center, said officials. It includes information on per-

sonal legal assistance, claims, trial defense, and victim/witness information for the Army. It provides preventive law information and helps users find the nearest Legal Assistance Office of any military branch.

The site does not offer legal advice, rather, information that site users should consider to prevent legal problems or before consulting an attorney.

Parka name, rank wear

Wear of the nametape on the Gortex Parka is mandatory. The nametape is 3-1/2 inches long, 1/2-inch wide, with 1/4-inch block letters. The nametape will accommodate 14 characters. Soldiers will sew the nametape on the left sleeve pocket flap, 1/4 inch up from the bottom of the flap, and centered left to right. This information has been incorporated into the revision of AR 670-1, which will be published in early 2001.

Cloth insignias of grade with velcro fasteners are no longer authorized for wear. The only cloth insignias authorized are those that are sewn closed. The loops slip over the front tab of the parka the way shoulder marks slip over the epaulets on the green shirts. Pin-on insignias of grade may still be used.

Verification of military experience

Verify your military experience online with the Department of Defense.

Just go to https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/vmet/owa/vmet_web_display.login to find out what the DOD has on record for your military experience. This is especially useful for those about to retire or separate service.

Keith L. Ware journalism awards announced

Keith L. Ware awards at U.S. Army Reserve Command and Department of Army levels were announced, and 88th Regional Support Command soldiers did very well.

USARC Level

1st Place – Army Funded Magazines – Blue Devil II, 88th RSC

1st Place – Feature Article

Staff Sgt. David Bennet, 367th MPAD

2nd Place – Feature Article

Sgt. Roger Schiltz, 367th MPAD

1st Place – Sports Article

Sgt. Noreen Feeney, 318th PCH

Werner unveils NCO picture



Command Sgt. Maj. John Werner unveiled an NCO Corps program at the October 2000 Commander's Conference designed to bring the NCO presence to the forefront and show NCO esprit de corps.

Pictures will be put on display at the 88th RSC headquarters highlighting each NCO rank and showing soldiers in action. The first picture features corporals. Look for more pictures to follow.

Rifle and Pistol Matches offer AT opportunity

The 88th Regional Support Command is providing support for the National Rifle and Pistol Matches at Camp Perry, Ohio in the June-August time

frame, 2001. Any soldier interested in performing alternate Annual Training, additional Annual Training up to 29 days, or who would like to perform an ADSW/ADT tour is encouraged to take advantage of the training opportunity offered by duty in support of the National Matches, the only national rifle and pistol competition held in the United States.

Personnel interested in this training opportunity must contact their unit training or personnel section for unit commander approval and further processing.

If you have additional questions, contact the NMTSG Staffing NCO, Sgt. Kathy Nieters, phone 1-800-843-2769 ext 3324, and e-mail katherine.nieters@usarc-emh2.army.mil.

3rd Place – Sports Article

Bill Geddes, 88th RSC

1st Place - Photojournalism

Pfc. Chris Rowe, 364th MPAD

Honorable mention - Stand-alone photo
MSG David Johnson, 367th MPAD

2nd Place – Special Achievement in
Print Media -- 88th RSC Almanac

DA Level

2nd Place – Feature Article

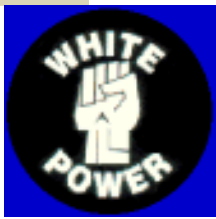
Staff Sgt. David Bennet, 367th MPAD

1st Place – Sports Article

Sgt. Noreen Feeney, 318th PCH

1st Place - Photojournalism

Pfc. Chris Rowe, 364th MPAD



White Power --
Used by various racist groups. The "A" is the center stands for "Aryan."



"Heil Hitler" --
Used by many racists as a greeting. "H" is the eighth letter of the alphabet thus HH or Heil Hitler.



Nation of Islam --
An anti-white and anti-Semitic religion based on the teaching that whites are devils created in an evil scientist's experiment.



White Aryan Resistance --
Racist skinhead organization based in Fallbrook, California and run by Tom and John Metzger.

Extremist groups and gangs

Should we worry? Is there a concern? Can they affect us? All it takes is one charismatic driven individual to persuade others to come over to their way of thinking. The purpose of this article is to answer questions several folks have asked concerning extremist groups and gangs.

In 1996, then Secretary of the Army, the Honorable Togo West assembled a taskforce to examine our Army and to determine if we had a major problem with extremist groups and extreme behaviors. What the taskforce found was very few organized groups or gangs operated within the ranks. However, each post visited had some so called wannabees or folks who openly displayed their dislike for other races.

Furthermore, without exception, local authorities outside the confines of the post stated there were extremist groups and problems ranging from minor to severe when it came to gang activity.

Should we worry? Is there a concern? Can they affect us? All three questions are rhetorical. Where do we, our soldiers and family member's live, work, shop, worship, and attend school? You guessed it; right in the center of the communities just outside the boundaries of the military installation or within commuting distance of the Reserve Center.

It really doesn't matter where you reside, the impact of hate groups and gangs continue to affect the good order and discipline of our armed forces. Once again, all it takes is one person with an extremist mentality to affect many. AR 600-20, paragraph 4-12 states: Military personnel **must** reject participation in extremist organizations and activities. Extremist organizations and activities are ones that advocate racial, gender or ethnic hatred or intolerance; advocate, create, or engage in illegal discrimination based on race, color, gender, religion, or national origin or advocate the

use of force or violence or unlawful means to deprive individuals of their rights under the United States Constitution or the laws of the United States, or any State, by unlawful means.

Soldiers are prohibited from (1) Participating in public demonstrations or rallies. (2) Attending a meeting or activity when on duty, when in uniform, when in a foreign country (whether on or off duty in or out of uniform). (3) Fund raising activities. (4) Recruiting or training members (including encouraging other soldiers to join). (5) Creating, organizing or taking a visible leadership role in such an organization or activity. (6) Distributing extremist literature on or off a military installation.

Commanders have the responsibility of maintaining good order and discipline. As such, they have the authority to take appropriate action to accomplish that mission. Commanders have a wide range of options for dealing with a soldier's violation of the prohibitions shown above.

As the Equal Opportunity Specialist for the 88th RSC, I'd like you to take a good look at yourself, family and organization. Speak with your family and coworkers about possible areas of concern. Most extremist groups and gangs offer unquestioned acceptance to those who are coerced into their way of thinking. In fact, due to the many skills acquired from military training, military members are prime targets for recruitment. Those recruited are seeking something they feel can't be found elsewhere.

We have an outstanding organization filled with professional, dedicated, caring people. However, we should never lose sight we are a reflection of society and extremist groups and gangs do have the potential to impact and/or disrupt cohesion, families or our organization. ♦

**Mr. Richard Cox, 88th RSC
Equal Opportunity Specialist**



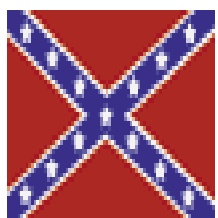
Jewish Defense League -- An anti-Arab group led by Irv Rubin



Ku Klux Klan --
The "Blood Drop" is used by the various Klan organizations through out the United States.



Posse Comitatus -- Christian identity organization that preaches Jews are the literal children of Satan.



Confederate Flag -
Though not always used in a racist context, this flag has been co-opted by the racist right as a symbol of white supremacy.



**88th Regional Support Command
Public Affairs Office
506 Roeder Circle
Fort Snelling, Minnesota 55111**

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